

Hope, Thank you.

I may not be able to get on the meeting Zoom session as I have a doctor appointment at the same time. However, in regard to AIS information, figures for what we have received are about \$6.48 million total with a little over \$2 million each year, according to those involved with distribution of the matching money for both monitoring and prevention.

Dustin at FWP will be providing an accurate report on how that has been used, including deposits into the trust fund. The legislature has tried to cover the full cost of the program since the federal money is never definite. Any unspent funding was to go into the Trust Fund, although the federal money can only be spent directly for AIS. The federal money comes as a 1 to 1 match.

We, meaning our PNWER delegation, worked hard in Washington, DC, each visit to continue the same funding for the four northwest states. This has been complicated with the addition of several more drainages and many more states with a variety of invaders listed.

At this point, and we believe it is solid, the funding is on track and moving forward for the next funding cycle. There has been support in DC from several states. Montana's full delegation have been solid and very important. All including Sen. Tester, Sen. Daines and Congressman Gianforte and staffs, have played important, perhaps critical support.

We expect that the PNWER states will receive as much or more than in previous funding cycles. Montana may see some additional funding through the Missouri Drainage funding. We are the headwaters state with many miles of drainage.

We currently use Columbia River funding across Montana on the basis of protecting that drainage. This has become a very good program.

Sen. Mike Cuffe
Senate District 1
Lincoln County, Troy, Libby and Eureka